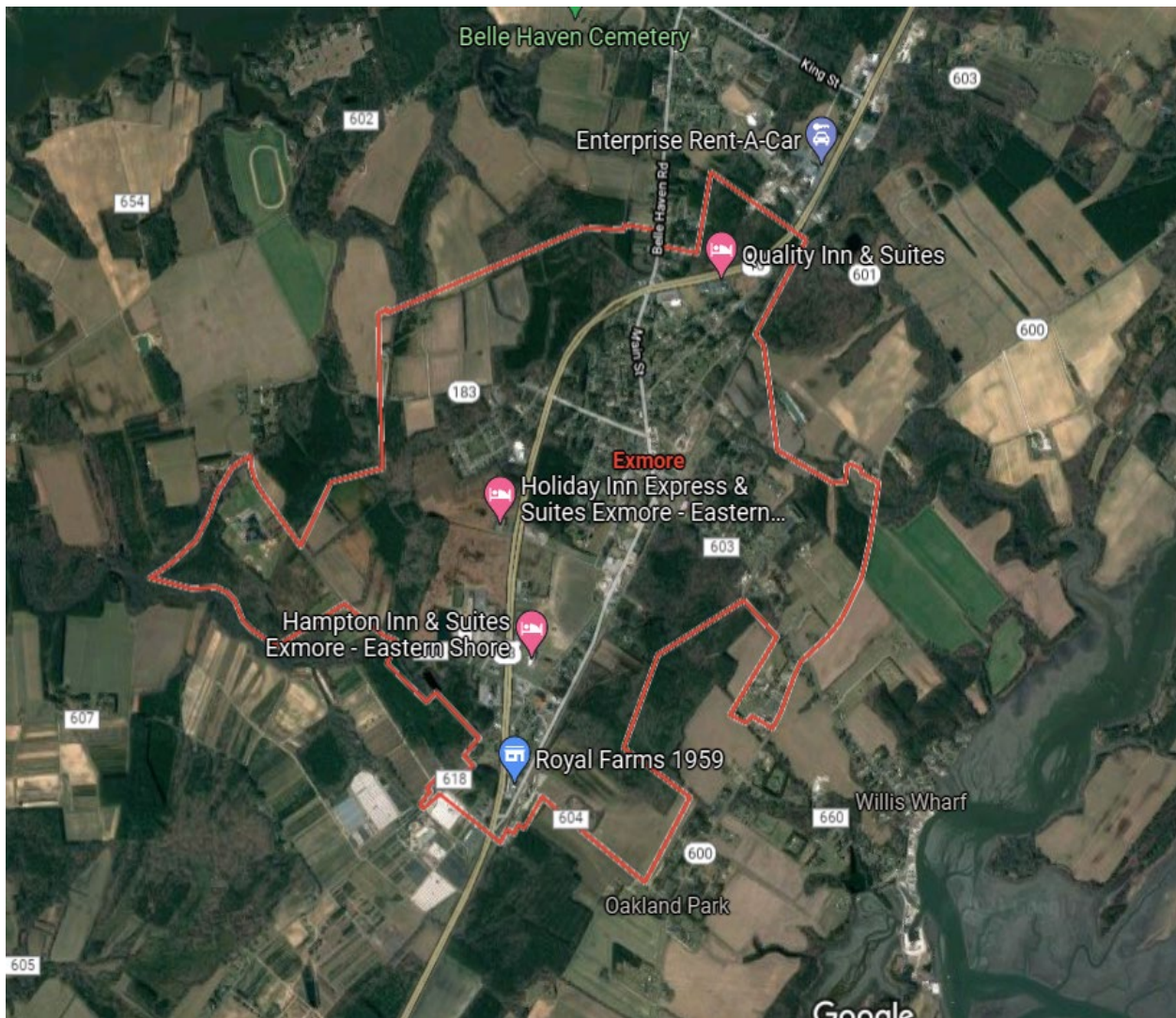


# CHAPTER 28: TOWN OF EXMORE

## TOWN PROFILE

Exmore resides in Northampton County near the border of Accomack County. It is located on the central spine of the Eastern Shore and encompasses approximately 590 acres. The Town of Exmore was established in 1884 with the designation of the first stop in Northampton County for the New York-Pennsylvania-Norfolk Railroad. The railroad brought with it commerce due to the Eastern Shore's produce, and its growing tourist market to the barrier islands. The Town was incorporated in 1950 due to a second wave of population growth. Exmore became the transportation nexus for the Eastern Shore, and to this day, the Town has one of the largest concentrations of commercial activity in Northampton County. Route 13 allows Exmore to remain an important commercial hub for the Eastern Shore (*Town of Exmore Comprehensive Plan, 2015*).



**Figure 1: Exmore Context and Google Map**

## SOCIO-ECONOMIC

Part of assessing hazards in relation to their risk is understanding the people affected. Not all people are affected equally. Some are affected by the factors that relate to their ability to understand risks posed by hazards, and some by their ability to remove themselves from harm's way. Those factors include age, mobility, income and the languages individuals speak and the languages in which individuals are able to access information.

### DEMOGRAPHICS

According to the American Community Survey five-year estimates, the Town of Exmore had a population of approximately 1,501 in 2019. The population has remained fairly stable, with an influx in 2010 due to the annexation that occurred (U.S. Census 2010). The transient population in the Town is thought to be substantial (*Town of Exmore Comprehensive Plan*, 2015).

Exmore has concentrations of senior and functional and access-based needs residents in its Peter Cartwright Apartments and Exmore Village I and II Apartment Villages. The poverty level (33.6%), percentage of the population with functional and access-based needs (20.6%), and the percentage of the population that is over the age of 62 (27%) all show levels much higher than that of the rest of the nation (ACS 2019). This is important to consider, as these populations would likely require additional assistance in the event of a hazard.

**Table 1: Exmore Demographic Information**

	2020	2014**	2013***	2010****	2000*****
<b>Population</b>	1,473	1,445	1,460	1,460	1,136
<b>Median Age</b>	41.8*	NA	37.7	44.4	38.6
<b>Disability</b>	309*	NA	80	NA	NA
<b>Income</b>					
Median Household Income	\$27,679*	NA	23,958\$	NA	31,143\$
Poverty Level	33.6%*	NA	30.4%	NA	NA
<b>Language</b>					
Only English	96.9%*	97.3%	NA	NA	97.1%
Other	3.1%*	2.7%	NA	NA	3.9%
Spanish	3.1%*	1.8%	NA	NA	2.0%
Ind-Euro	0.0%*	0.2%	NA	NA	0.8%
Asian	0.0%*	0.7%	NA	NA	0.0%
Other	0.0%*	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Source: U.S. Census 2020, \*ACS, 2014-2019, \*\*Annual Estimates of the Residential Population: 2010-2014, \*\*\*ACS, 2010-2014, \*\*\*\*U.S. Census 2010, \*\*\*\*\*U.S. Census 2000

### WORK FORCE

Employment patterns are important to examine for two reasons. It can help to identify concentrations of people for hazard information dissemination or hazard rescue and evacuation. It can also identify where disruptions in employment and income might occur in the aftermath of a disaster.

According to Table 2, the Exmore workforce is largely employed in the retail trade, educational and health services, and accommodation and food services industries; however, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, most of Exmore's work force is employed elsewhere. The 2019 American Community Survey five-year estimates indicate that 56.4% of the workforce in Exmore commutes outside of the Town to their place of employment.

**Table 2: Exmore Local Workforce Industry**

Civilian Employed Population										
Industry	2019*		2014**		2012**		2010**		2000***	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Agriculture, forestry, fishing/hunting, or mining	0	0.0%	20	4.1%	39	5.5%	35	5.7%	14	2.7%
Construction	27	5.7%	50	10.4%	46	6.5%	24	3.9%	50	9.8%
Manufacturing	34	7.2%	38	7.9%	68	9.6%	64	10.3%	73	14.3%
Wholesale trade	51	10.8%	27	5.6%	6	0.8%	17	2.7%	25	4.9%
Retail trade	82	17.4%	91	18.9%	129	18.3%	86	13.9%	71	13.9%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	20	4.2%	8	1.7%	15	2.1%	39	6.3%	20	3.9%
Information	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	15	2.1%	19	3.1%	8	1.6%
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rentals	3	0.6%	8	1.7%	26	3.7%	27	4.4%	10	2.0%
Professional, scientific, waste management	18	3.8%	40	8.3%	44	6.2%	17	2.7%	21	4.1%
Educational, health care, social services	128	27.1%	139	28.8%	207	29.3%	173	27.9%	130	25.4%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, food	59	12.5%	38	7.9%	64	9.1%	65	10.5%	44	8.6%
Public Administration	16	3.4%	9	1.9%	14	2.0%	9	1.5%	20	3.9%
Other	34	7.2%	14	2.9%	33	4.7%	47	7.6%	26	5.1%
TOTAL CIVILIAN EMPLOYED POPULATION	472	-	482	-	706	-	619	-	512	-

Source: \*ACS, 2014-2019, \*\*ACS, 2010-2014, \*\*\*U.S. Census 2000

## BUSINESSES

Business data provides basic information used in projecting potential economic losses from business and employment disruption, along with wage losses to employees. It can also serve as an indicator of community recovery resources. Finally, it can help to prioritize restoration of utility and infrastructure functions following a high-intensity hazard.

The retail industry makes up the majority of business types in the Town of Exmore (Table 3). Exmore has three hotels in the Town that support a substantial transient population of travelers and tourists, which is much greater during the summer season (*ESVA Hazard Mitigation Plan*, 2016). The Town also features several locally-owned shops, such as consignment and antique shops, and the popular Exmore Diner. Exmore hosts the 7<sup>th</sup> largest employer in the County, New Ravenna, with over 100 employees ([Exmore - Northampton County](#)). This reflects the high percentage of the total civilian employed population in the retail industry shown in Table 2. A Dollar Tree and a Dollar General have also been built in the Town over the last few years.

The Town of Exmore hosts five aquaculture businesses at Willis Wharf, as well as the three largest clam culture businesses on the East Coast. The seed stock is necessary to support 100% of clam and aquaculture businesses in the Region. This industry staffs over 100 employees and 50 subcontractors and accumulates approximately \$30 million in gross sales. The clam industry alone has a \$40 million farm gate value of mature shellfish annually. Water quality in the Region is vital to the security of ongoing economic prosperity of the businesses located in Exmore, as well as the Region as a whole (Personal communications, Robert Duer, Town Manager and Taylor Dukes, Zoning and Utilities Official, March 23, 2021).

The number of businesses in the Exmore zip code (not all are with the Town limits) has remained relatively stable, but with shifts among types of businesses. The combined estimated annual payroll of all businesses in 2013 was around \$20 million (Census Zip Code Business Patterns, 2013). There are currently 131 active business licenses in the Town of Exmore (Personal communication, Robert Duer, Town Manager, March 23, 2021).

As of current, the wastewater collection system in Exmore is unable to serve the demands of businesses downtown and along Route 13 (Personal communications, Robert Duer, Town Manager, March 23, 2021). The anticipated new sewer lines (see Water Supply and Wastewater Section) would allow for new businesses to open and for the Town to continue to grow economically.

**Table 3: Exmore Business Establishment Types**

Industry Code Description	Total Establishments			
	2021*	2013	2011	2009
Utilities	-	0	1	1
Construction	-	6	5	5
Manufacturing	-	3	3	3
Wholesale Trade	-	2	2	2
Retail Trade	-	27	30	31
Transportation and Warehousing	-	0	1	1
Finance and Leisure	-	8	6	6
Real Estate and Rental Leasing	-	4	2	3
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	-	1	2	2
Educational Services	-	2	2	2
Health Care and Social Assistance	-	13	8	9
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	-	2	1	1
Accommodation and Food Services	-	8	10	11
Other Services (Except Public Admin)	-	10	12	13
<b>Total, All Establishments</b>	131 (Business Licenses)	86	85	90
<b>Total Employees</b>	-	913	NA	NA

Source: \*Personal Communications, Robert Duer, Town Manager, March 23, 2021; Census Zip Code Business Patterns, 2013, 2011, and 2009

## BUILT INFRASTRUCTURE

Housing units, community facilities, and transportation are all important factors when considering hazard resiliency. They provide the social services necessary during hazardous scenarios, safe cover for those wanting to stay, and a way to evacuate.

### HOUSING UNITS

Knowledge of a community's housing base contributes to hazard and vulnerability analysis by identifying how many homes are at risk. Table 4 shows an increase of 73 new housing units and 100 new unoccupied units since 2010. Town officials believe this to be inaccurate and estimate that there have only been five new housing units since 2010. Due to septic system limitations, new development is currently extremely limited (Personal communications, Robert Duer, Town Manager, March 23, 2021).

**Table 4: Exmore Housing**

	2019*	2013**	2010***	2000****
<b>Total Housing Units</b>	842	815	769	524
Occupied	655	751	682	475
Vacant	187	64	87	49
<b>Owner-Occupied</b>	255	337	341	302
<b>Renter-Occupied</b>	400	414	341	173
<b>Median Housing Value</b>	\$116,000	\$120,900	NA	NA

Source: \*ACS, 2014-2019, \*\*ACS, 2009-2013, \*\*\*U.S. Census 2010, \*\*\*\*U.S. Census 2000

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## TRANSPORTATION

The number of vehicles available to households is one indicator of a household's ability to evacuate when necessary. Out of the 655 occupied housing units in Exmore, nearly 30% are without access to a vehicle (ACS 2014-2019). This could be extremely problematic if evacuation is necessary in the event of a hazard. Star Transit will operate during incoming hazardous events to help assist those without a vehicle and citizens with functional access needs evacuate; however, operations will cease once the hazard reaches a certain level. Shore Ride also offers transportation services on the Eastern Shore. Town officials believe the high number of those without a vehicle is likely due to a high number of senior and functional and access-based residents in its Peter Cartwright Apartments and Exmore Village I and II Apartment Villages. These populations will need additional assistance in the event an evacuation is necessary.

**Table 5: Exmore Vehicles Available per Household**

Vehicles Available	2019*	2014**	2010***	2000****
None	191	190	122	42
One	184	291	260	196
Two	209	200	170	174
Three or more	71	70	63	29

Source: \*ACS, 2014-2019, \*\*ACS, 2009-2014, \*\*\*U.S. Census 2010, \*\*\*\*U.S. Census 2000

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## COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES

Community facilities are facilities required to support the services and functions provided by the Town government or in coordination with other public and private entities. These facilities enhance the overall quality of life for the Town and its citizens. It is important to note what facilities are available in case of a hazard, and it is important to make an inventory of facilities that could be impacted by a hazard.

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### PUBLIC SAFETY

Fire protection for the Town is provided by the Exmore Volunteer Fire Department, for which there are 18-20 volunteer firefighters, two ambulances, one engine, one tanker, one brush truck, and one support vehicle (Personal communications, Chief Greg DeYoung, March 23, 2021). Ambulance service is provided by Northampton County. The Town of Exmore has their own police department which includes seven full-time officers serving approximately 1,500 residents. Northampton County Sheriff's Office and Virginia State Police also provide additional police assistance when needed.

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### PARKS AND RECREATION

The Exmore Town Park has recently been renovated with the addition of new restrooms. The parking area has been enhanced and the Town is beginning to use the Park for activities and events beyond just the playground.



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### CULTURAL RESOURCES

The closest public library is in Nassawadox and is part of the Eastern Shore Public Library system. Exmore developed as a result of the completed railroad in 1884. There are historic buildings that go back to this age, such as the Exmore Historic Train Station pictured in Figure 2 below.

***Figure 2: Exmore Historic Train Station. Photo by A-NPDC Staff***



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### WATER SUPPLY AND WASTEWATER

The Town of Exmore had one new well installed approximately 24-36 months ago and another that is in process of being replaced (Personal communications, Robert Duer, Town Manager, March 23, 2021). Both wells pump to a chlorination facility and to a water tower with a single-day storage capacity.

Failing septic systems in the late 1990s led to the construction of two sewage systems. The one on the north end of Town was constructed in 1999 and collects sewage from individual septic tanks to a mass drain field. The 2005 septic tank effluent pump modified individual septic tanks in the downtown area and diverts the settled effluent to a waste water treatment plant on the east side of Town. The newer system suffered from malfunctions and the USDA granted Exmore \$30,000 in planning funds to study sewer collection and treatment (*Town of Exmore Comprehensive Plan*, 2015). The Town plans to connect to Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD) sewer lines in the near future, which will allow for new residential and commercial developments. Installation of the collection system and treatment facility will increase the Town's ability to get back to business following stormwater and flooding events and will protect businesses both within and near the Town and Region.

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### SOLID WASTE

The Town provides solid waste removal services within Town limits to approximately 540 households and 75 businesses ([Solid Waste - Northampton County](#)). There is an Accomack County Convenience Center about four miles north of the Town on Route 13 in Painter.

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### POWER AND COMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE

Electricity is provided by A&N Electric Cooperative (ANEC), and all lines are less than 100 kilovolts. The Town does not typically experience long-term or widespread outages. Broadband service runs along Route 13, thus through the Town of Exmore.

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### SCHOOLS

Three schools are located within the boundaries of the Town, including one public school, Occohannock Elementary School, and two private schools, Broadwater Academy (PreK-12) and Shore Christian Academy (*Town of Exmore Comprehensive Plan*, 2015).

## NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Exmore ranges in elevation from 27 to 43 feet above the mean sea level. There are no perennially flowing surface water bodies in the Town. Drainage ditches on the eastern half of the Town drain towards Parting Creek and the Atlantic Ocean. Drainage ditches on the western side of Town drain towards Occohannock or Nassawadox Creeks and to the Chesapeake Bay. Hydric soils are the most prevalent soil type in the Town, located on the eastern, southern, and western sides of the Town. There are some highly permeable soils located in the northern and central areas of Town (*ESVA Hazard Mitigation Plan*, 2016). Hydric soils are currently a major limiting factor in Exmore due to their severe limitations in respect to constructing on-site septic systems. A majority of residents in Exmore utilize on-site septic systems for residential and commercial waste disposal.

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### LAND USE LAND COVER

Prior to the annexation in 2000, residential development constituted the majority of the Town's development. Since 2000; however, in addition to several more residential areas, many farmlands and forested lands are now within the Town's boundaries (*Town of Exmore Comprehensive Plan*, 2015).

## HAZARD PREPAREDNESS & COMMUNITY CAPABILITIES

### PREVIOUS HAZARD MITIGATION PLANS

[§201.6\(b\)\(3\)](#), [§201.6\(c\)\(3\)](#), [§201.6\(d\)\(3\)](#) Exmore did not participate in the 2006 Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP), but did become actively involved for the 2011 update. The following table contains authorities, policies, programs and resources, and intentions or ability to expand to address reduce vulnerability to hazards. Exmore updated its Comprehensive Plan in 2015 and is currently undergoing another minor update (Personal communications, Robert Duer, Town Manager, March 23, 2021).

**Table 6: Town of Exmore Hazard Mitigation Resources**

	Ordinances, Plans, & Publications														Resources, Committees			
Authority	Building Code	Chesapeake Bay Act	SWMP	Hazard Mitigation Plan	Comprehensive Plan	Ordinance	Storm Water Regulations	Transportation Infrastructure Inundation Vulnerability Report	All Hazards Preparedness	Emergency Operations Plans	Mutual Aid Agreements/Documents	Neighborhood Emergency Help	Virginia Hurricane Evacuation	Oil & HazMat Response Plan; HazMat Commodity Flow	Ground Water Committee	Navigable Waterways Committee	Climate Adaptation Working Group	ES Disaster Preparedness Coalition
Local	*				*	*												
County			*															
Regional				*				*	*	*	*			*	*	*	*	*
State		*					*						*					
Federal		*																



## NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM & HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM

Stormwater flooding was identified as the Town's primary risk in 2011, 2016, and 2021.

Stormwater flooding rose to the top of issues identified by Town residents as ones they wanted Town leadership to address, along with high-winds and threats of groundwater contamination. The comprehensive plan included action steps to protect citizens from hazards by:

- Informing citizens of risks from stormwater flooding and wind hazards and how to protect themselves and property;
- Participating in the Hazard Mitigation Planning Team, the Disaster Preparedness Coalition, and other activities that help to coordinate resources; and
- Seeking hazard mitigation funds to alleviate effects of repeated stormwater flooding.

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### NFIP

[§201.6\(c\)\(2\)\(ii\)](#), [§201.6\(c\)\(3\)\(ii\)](#), [§201.6\(d\)\(3\)](#) Exmore joined the National Flood Insurance Program on February 8, 2001 as a No Special Flood Hazard Area Participating Community due to the town having no identified Special Flood Hazard Areas. Claims in Exmore are most likely the result of stormwater floodings. More information on repetitive loss properties, NFIP policies and claims, and the CRS program can be found in Chapter 6: Coastal Flooding and Chapter 9: The Region.

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### HMGP

Exmore has not participated in the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

## HAZARDS AND RISK ASSESSMENT

§201.6(c)(2)(i), §201.6(c)(2)(ii), §201.6(d)(3) Stormwater flooding and wind have the greatest and most frequent impact on the Town.

## PANDEMIC RESPONSE AND READINESS

The Town of Exmore used CARES Act funding and other federal funds to purchase plexiglass, masks, sanitizer, and sanitation stations. Town officials stated no funds were used for themselves and all were allocated to residents of Exmore (Personal communications, Robert Duer, Town Manager, and Taylor Dukes, Zoning and Utilities Official, March 23, 2021). Officials state that the Town is better prepared for the possibility of another similar event in the future.

## WIND

No parts of the Town lie in the wind-borne debris hazard area. This area extends 1-mile inland from the coast. The Town lies in the 110-mph design wind zone ([Northampton Building Code](#)). Most of the residential areas are older and have mature trees in and around the homes. During a high-wind event, falling branches or trees may damage some structures and power lines. Hurricane-force winds would be extremely damaging to residences, Town facilities, trees, and electrical infrastructure. Although there have been no documented accounts of tornadoes within Town limits, this is a hazard for which all localities on the Eastern Shore should be as prepared as possible. Two high-wind events were recorded by the NWS in 2006 (50-mph), a derecho in 2012 (50-mph), and 11 more between 1984 and 2012. Total recorded damage from all events was approximately \$115,000 in 2015 dollars (Personal communications, Town Officials, December 7, 2015).

The Hazus® hurricane wind model indicates that there would be wind damages from a storm with a return period of 100 years. Such a storm could be expected to generate three-second gusts of between 90 and 93 mph in the vicinity of Exmore. Figure 4 reveals that the highest monetary damages are anticipated to be in the areas between Willis Wharf Road and Virginia Avenue on the east side of the railroad. Those census blocks include primarily residential structures, including some apartments.

## STORMWATER FLOODING

Stormwater flooding poses the greatest risk to the Town of Exmore and occurs with the most frequency. The public noted difficulties with stormwater flooding and it was also named the top concern for commercial businesses located in Exmore (*Town of Exmore Comprehensive Plan, 2015*). The majority of the Town contains hydric soils that are unsuitable for drainage and readily retain rainwater. These hydric soils are located within the eastern, southern, and western areas of the Town. A small area of highly permeable soils is located in the northern and central areas of Town. The depth to groundwater for hydric soils is typically shallower than three feet below ground surface, resulting in relatively less accommodation capacity than coarser-grained soils.

In 2019, 18-inches of rain fell over the Town. Just days before a tropical system hit the region, a storm cell sat over the Towns of Exmore and nearby Nassawadox for nearly 12 hours, leaving two feet of rain water. Main Street, as well as nearly all other roads in Town, were inundated (Personal communications, Robert Duer, Town Manager, and Taylor Dukes, Zoning and Utilities Official, March 23, 2021).

**Table 7: Exmore Stormwater Flooding Areas**

	HMP 2006	HMP 2011	HMP 2016	HMP 2021
<b>Stormwater Flooding Area</b>	Main St. between Route 13 and Business Route 13 -Driveways -Septic systems -Crawlspaces	Monroe Ave. between Madison Ave. and Jefferson St.; Westfield Ave.; Virginia St.; Main St. between Hadlock Rd. and Bright St.; Poplar Ave.; Broad St. in vicinity of grading shed; Bright Ave. between Broad St. and Main St.; Main St. between Commercial St. and Bright Ave.	Town-wide except along railroad tracks and New Roads housing area (west of US Route 13, and south of Occohannock Neck Rd).	Unchanged
<b>Source of Hazard</b>	None listed	-Hydric soils -Depth to ground water is less than three feet -Inadequately maintained drainage infrastructure	-Hydric soils -Depth to ground water is less than three feet -Inadequately maintained drainage infrastructure -Frequency of high-volume rainstorms.	-Hydric soils -Depth to ground water -Inadequately maintained drainage infrastructure
<b>Effects</b>	None listed	None listed	Damage to buildings and personal property; Standing water public health hazard for mosquito-borne illnesses; Water deep enough to affect mobility of non-automobile travelers; Erosion cutting away parking lots	Unchanged

Source: Eastern Shore of Virginia Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2016, 2011, 2006

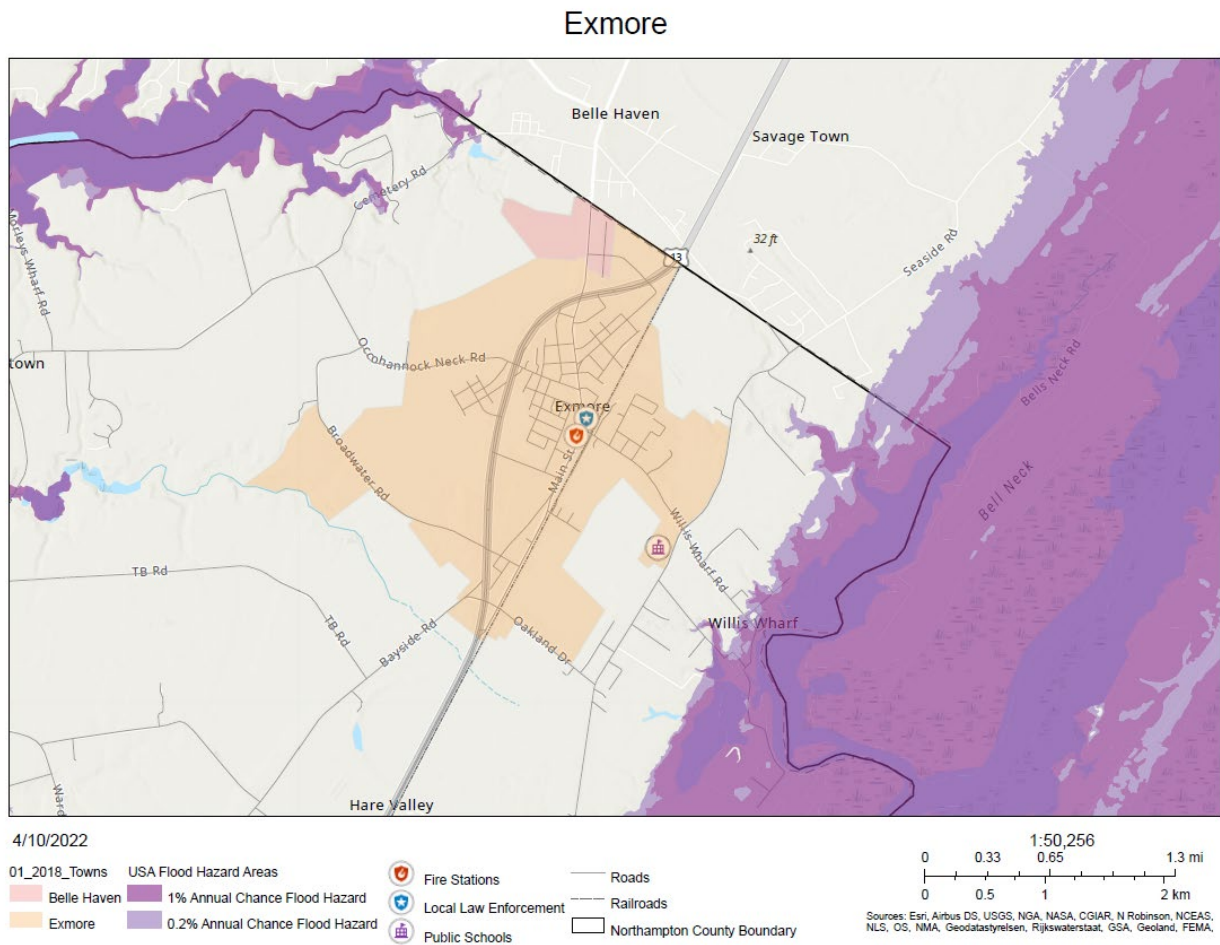
## COASTAL EROSION

No structures are at immediate risk from coastal erosion.

## COASTAL FLOODING

No portions of the Town lie within a Special Flood Hazard Area. The entire Town is located within the X zone, which means that it is not in the floodplain and there is thought to be no threat of coastal flooding.

**Figure 3: Exmore Flood Hazards to Infrastructure**



## HAZARDS OF LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE

### SNOW AND ICE

A large ice storm impacted the Town in the late 1990s. The ice storm downed tree limbs and power lines, leaving residents without electricity and forcing local businesses to close for several days. Emergency energy generators filled the needs for drinking water during the time of the outage. Extreme cold weather events have historically caused damages to the Town's water distribution systems. During these events, pipes froze and burst, leaving the Town's water supply at risk of contamination (Personal communications, Robert Duer, Town Manager and Taylor Dukes, Zoning and Utilities Official, March 23, 2021).

In 2016, the NOAA National Climatic Data Center, now the National Center for Environmental Information, recorded 37 instances of winter weather in Northampton County between 1996 and 2005. Exmore has a long stretch of U.S. Route 13 within its Town limits, and winter weather poses an accident risk for residents and through-travelers, stretching its emergency response resources. Ice and snow also pose a slip and fall risk to portion of the population traveling by foot, wheelchair/scooter, or bicycle (almost 30% of households have no vehicle access), and the concentrations of seniors and functional and access-based needs residents. The services of Star Transit, which provides transportation services up and down the Eastern Shore primarily to seniors, low-income populations, and individuals with disabilities, are also affected by ice, snow, and flooding.

### FIRE AND SMOKE

Officials noted the amount of vegetation cover that surrounds Exmore, the history of large fires in Town, and the strain that fighting large fires places on its water system. For example, during a local restaurant fire, water system pressure dropped from 60 lbs. to 36 lbs., and public works employees were roused during the night to kick on another pump to keep water supplied. A downtown fire in the 1980s required a foam truck from Wallops Flight Facility (the only fire company with fire suppression chemicals) to finally put out the fire. By the time it was extinguished, officials report it had burned from the downtown area almost to Countyline Road, a distance of about one mile (Personal communications, Town Officials, December 7, 2015; verified March 23, 2021).

### GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION

The Town faces a threat of ground water contamination from several sources including failed septic systems within the Town, leaks and spills of petroleum-based products from underground storage tanks, and major industrial facilities within the area. In Exmore, approximately 25% of residences and commercial businesses are served by the Town's waste water treatment system and the remainder of residences and businesses are served by on-site septic systems (*Town of Exmore Comprehensive Plan*, 2015).

The Town has a public water supply that is protected according to state-mandated wellhead protection regulations. Town officials indicated that there are approximately 20 individual residential wells in Town that could potentially be impacted. According to the *Eastern Shore of Virginia Groundwater Resource Protection and Preservation Plan* (2013; verified March 23, 2021), no ground water problems currently exist within the vicinity of the Town, but increased water supply demand within the region could pose a future threat to ground water supply quantity and quality. The Town adopted a Water Conservation Ordinance in May of 2011.

Exmore recently drilled two new wells, thought to be located in the paleo channels (Personal communications, Robert Duer, Town Manager and Taylor Dukes, Zoning and Utilities Official, March 23, 2021).



## CRITICAL FACILITIES

The following table lists the critical facilities and their relative importance to the Town.

**Table 8: Town of Exmore Critical Facilities**

Facility	2006 Plan	2011 Plan	2016 Plan	2021 Plan	Hazards	No. of People Affected	Loss Potential	Relocation Potential	Retrofit Potential
<b>Town-owned Facilities</b>									
Exmore Town Office/Police Department Building	-	X	X	X	Stormwater flooding, Wind	1,501+	Major disruption	Yes	Yes
Exmore Water Tower (located inside corporate village limits of Belle Haven) and Filtration Building	-	X	X	X	Wind	1,501+	Devastating	Yes	No
Exmore Municipal Wells	-	X	X	X	Stormwater flooding, Groundwater contamination	1,501+	Devastating	Yes	No
Exmore Water Distribution System	-	X	X	X	Stormwater flooding, Snow and ice	1,501+	Major disruption	No	Yes
Exmore Public Sewer Systems(2)	-	X	X	X	Stormwater flooding	1,501+	Major disruption	No	Yes
Exmore Town Park	-	X	X	X	Stormwater flooding, Wind	1,501+	Inconvenience	No	Yes
Exmore Public Works	-	-	X	X	Stormwater flooding, Wind	1,501+	Major disruption	Yes	Yes
<b>Facilities not Town-owned</b>									
Post Office	-	-	X	X	Stormwater flooding	1,501+	Major Disruption	Yes	Yes
Exmore Village/AP Apartments/	-	-	X	X	Wind, Fire	400+	Devastating	No	Yes
Power Sub-Station	-	-	X	X	Wind, Fire	1,501+	Devastating	No	Yes
CSB	-	-	X	X	Wind	500+	Major disruption	Yes	Yes
Communication Tower (behind old A&N building)	-	-	X	X	Wind	1,501+	Major Disruption	Yes	Yes
Associated Grain Bins	-	-	X	X	Wind	100+	Inconvenience	Yes	Yes
Exmore Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department	-	X	X	X	Stormwater flooding, Wind	11, 885+	Devastating	No	Yes
Exmore Schools	-	X	X	X	Stormwater flooding, Wind	1,501+	Major disruption	No	Yes

## FINDINGS

1. The hazards expected to have the greatest impact on the Town are stormwater flooding and high-wind events, which have been experienced throughout the Town's history. Other hazards facing the Town are snow and ice, fire and smoke, and groundwater contamination. Like other areas on the Eastern Shore, Exmore is also susceptible to tornadoes, drought, and mosquito-borne illnesses.
2. Most of the Town's residential areas have older construction and many mature trees around homes and churches. During a high-wind event, branches and trees may come down causing secondary wind damage and power outages.
3. The Town has no Special Flood Hazard Areas, but residents are purchasing flood insurance likely to protect their homes from potential impacts from stormwater flooding damages.
4. The Town has identified undersized drainage pipes in the downtown business district that cannot handle large amounts of rain water, causing flooding in the area.
5. The Town's water distribution system is aging and becoming increasingly fragile and vulnerable to winter weather as well as stormwater flooding events.
6. The Town's system for managing wastewater has ongoing incidences of failure and is need of redesign and maintenance/repairs.
7. New development is currently limited in the Town due to soils not suitable for individual septic tanks and malfunctions to the Town's two septic systems. Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD) will begin serving some areas of the Eastern Shore, including the Town of Exmore. Connecting to HRSD sewer lines will allow for new development in the Town.